

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

AID-05 IGA-02 EB-07 OMB-01 /075 W

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P R 151140Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4962

INFO SECDEF

JCS

US MISSION NATO 811

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVERU

CINCUSAFE

16 AF, TORREJON/CV

JUSMG/MAAG SPAIN

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E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, SP, US

SUBJECT: THE TREATY OF FIRENSHIP AND COOPERATION SUBMITTED TO
SPANISH CORTES.

1. THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WAS SUBMITTED FOR
APPROVAL TO THE SPANISH CORTES ON MARCH 12. ALL RELATED
AGREEMENTS WERE SUBMITTED WITH IT AS A SINGLE PACKAGE.

2. THE DELAY IN SUBMISSION HAS BEEN EXPLAINED TO US BY FOREIGN
MINISTRY OFFICIALS AS REALTED TO (A) INITIAL HESITANCY ABOUT
SUBMITTING ALL THE AGREEMENTS FOR CORTES APPROVAL WHILE ONLY
THE TREATY AND NOTES DIRECTLY RELATED TO IT WILL RECEIVE THE
ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, AND (B) A DESIRE TO BE
CERTAIN FIRST THAT THE TREATY WAS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS TOWARD
SENATE APPROVAL.

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3. THE RECENT SPANISH PRESS COVERAGE OF THE TREAT'S CONSIDERATION

BY THE SENATE HAS BEEN GENERALLY UPBEAT, WITH APPROVAL BY THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND THE FULL SENATE IN APRIL OR MAY UNIFORMLY PREDICTED. THAT THE CRITICAL STATEMENTS MADE BY A NUMBER OF WITNESSES AT THE HEARINGS ON MARCH 12 WERE TAKEN IN STRIDE BY THE MADRID PRESS IS IN PART ATTRIBUTABLE TO A BACKGROUND BRIEFING GIVEN THAT MORNING BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. HE ALSO WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO CAST THE EAGLETON CLARK RESOLUTION IN A POSITIVE LIGHT, AS FRIENDLY TO SPAIN AND SUPPORTIVE OF THE GOAL OF SENATE APPROVAL. (NEVERTHELESS, THE NATIONAL MOVEMENTS DAILY "ARRIBA ISSUES A CHARGE OF INTERFERENCE IN SPAIN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.)

4. AT THIS SAME TIME, THE SPANISH PRESS NOTES SIGN OF CONCERN IN THE U.S. AT RECENT EVENTS IN SPAIN. "YA'S" PRESTIGIOUS COMMENTATOR LUIS APOSTUA, FOR ONE, MAKES THE POINT THAT THE SENATE'S FAITH IN THE CONTINUED TRANSFORMATION OF SPANISH POLITICS AND ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION GO HAND IN HAND.
STABLER

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